

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L COPENHAGEN 3317

GENEVA FOR USDEL CSCE

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: PINT PFOR DA

SUBJECT: SAKHAROV HEARING TO TAKE PLACE IN PARLIAMENT BUILDING

REF: A. COPENHAGEN 3261 B. COPENHAGEN 3298

SUMMARY. PROTEST BY 40 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT OVER THE PARLIAMENTARY PRESIDUM'S DECISION NOT TO PERMIT AN ANTI-COMMUNIST HEARING IN CHRISTIANSBORG PALACE, THE SEAT OF PARLIAMENT, HAS CAUSED THE PRESIDUM TO CHANGE THAT DECISION. ACCORDINGLY THE JOINT COUNCIL OF EASTERN EXILES PLANS TO SPONSOR A "SAKHAROV" HEARING AT CHRISTIANSBORG EARLY IN 1975. END SUMMARY.

1. THE PRESIDUM OF THE DANISH FOLKETING (PARLIAMENT) REVERSED ITS DECISION REPORTED REFTTEL A AND ANNOUNCED OVER THE WEEKEND THAT JOINT COUNCIL OF EASTERN EXILES
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WOULD BE PERMITTED TO USE THE PARLIAMENTARY PREMISES IN

CHRISTONSBORG PLANCE FOR AN ANTI-COMMUNIST HEARTING.
THE CHANGE CAME AFTER 40 MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT HAD
PROTESTED THE PRESIDIUMS DECISION AND COINCIDENT
WITH THE SAKHAROV TELEPHONE INTERVIEW (REFTEL B) APPEALING TO
DANISH POLITICAL ORGANIZATION TO FACILITATE HOLING
OF THE HEARING.

2. THE DECISION WAS MADE AT A NOV 21 EVENING MEETING OF
REPRESENTATIVES OF THE POLITICAL PARTIES IN THE
FOLKETING. IN FAVOR OF THE "SAKHAROV "HEARING AND
REPRESENTING A SUBSTANTIAL MAJORITY IN THE 179 SEAT
FOLKETING WERE THE CHRISTIAN PEOPLES PARTY (7 SEATS)
CENTER DEMOCRATS (13) CONSERVATIVES (16) THE JUSTICE
PARTY (5) THE PROGRESS PARTY (26) AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS
(47) THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC POSITION IS ESPECIALLY
NOTEWORTHY IN VIEW OF ITS SUPPORT FOR THE PREVIOUS
POLITICAL HEARINGS HELD IN CHRISTIANSBORG, THE VIET-NAM
WAR CRIMES TRIBUNAL (OCT 1972) AND THE CHILE
HEARING (JUNE 1974) THE SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC
REPRESENTATIVES EXPLAINED THAT THE PARTY SUPPORTED THE
IDEA OF A POLITICAL BALANCE WITH RESPECT
TO THESE HEARINGS. ALSO NOTEWORTHY WAS THE FACT THAT
THE GOVERNING LIBERAL PARTY WAS (ACCORDING TO A
PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIAL) STRONGLY OPPOSED BEING
SENSITIVE PRESUMABLE TO THE GOVERNMENTS RELATIONS
WITH THE SOVIET UNION.

3. THE TIMING OF THE "HEARINGS" HAS NOT YET
BEEN SETTLED. THE JOINT COUNCIL HAS INFORMED
PARLIAMENTARY OFFICIALS THAT SEVERAL MONTHS PREPARATIONS
MIGHT BE REQUIRED. PRESS ACCOUNTS STATES
THAT IT WILL BE HELD "EARLY NEXT YEAR" WITH A
NUMBER OF FORMER POLITICAL PRISONERS AND DEPORTEES AS
THE PRIME WITNESSES. MENTIONED IN THIS CONNECTION ARE
"PAVEL LITVINOV, ANDREW SINYAWSKI, AND POSSIBLY
ALEXANDER SOLZHENITSYN."

4. COMMENT THE PRESIDIUM'S BASIC DECISION TO DENY
PERMISSION FOR POLITICAL HEARINGS TO BE HELD AT
CHRISTIANSBORG STILL STANDS. THEY HAVE NOW MERELY
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AGREED AS AN EXCEPTION TO PERMIT ONE LAST HEARING
IN ORDER TO BALANCE OFF THE PREVIOUS LEFTIST HEARINGS.

5. THERE ARE MANY FORESEEABLE OBSTACLES AND WE ARE
STILL UNCONVINCED THAT THE HEARING WILL IN FACT
ULTIMATELY TAKE PLACE IN CHRISTIANSBORG.
AN ELECTION
COULD ALTER THE PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONSHIPS

CONSIDERABLE AND ACCORDING TO ONE PARLIAMENTARY
OFFICIALS TOO LONG A LEAD TIME COULD ENDANGER THE
PRESENT APPROVAL BY PERMITTING THE OPPOSITION
TIME TO MOUNT A REACTION. HOWEVER, THE PRESENT PUBLICLY-
ANNOUNCED GREEN LIGHT IS A MAJOR STEP IN
THE RIGHT DIRECTION.
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